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Walla Walla District

News Release

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Corps to host Treasure Valley flood exercise orientation meeting

BOISE, Idaho – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in partnership with other federal, state, county, city and local agencies has formed a new Treasure Valley Flood Exercise Group. The group will host a series of flood exercises starting with an orientation on Nov. 15 in Boise to help Treasure Valley officials prepare for potential flood events during the coming season.

The orientation will be held at 9 a.m. in the Idaho Department of Water Resources office located in the Idaho Water Center, 322 East Front Street, Boise.

“This is an effort to bring together flood response agencies to create a foundation for cooperation and assistance as we prepare for flood events in Treasure Valley,” said James Blanscett, the coordinator for the Treasure Valley Flood Exercise group.

Over 100 participants representing an array of agencies and municipalities are expected to attend. They include the National Weather Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Idaho Department of Water Resources, Ada and Canyon counties and cities throughout the Treasure Valley. Mayor Nancy Merrill of the City of Eagle will be the keynote speaker.

Future exercises will concentrate on emergency responses, communications and public information, regulatory issues and recovery efforts, said Blanscett.

Several Treasure Valley communities adjacent to the Boise River experienced flooding or high water during the past winter and resulting spring run-off leading to calls for greater coordination and cooperation throughout the region.

“By focusing on sharing information, coordinating flood preparation and recovery efforts, identifying regulatory impacts and available communication channels, we hope to identify and consolidate available resources and assistance as well as increase awareness throughout the Treasure Valley for more effective response during flood events,” Blanscett said.

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